What is claimed is:

1.   A method for providing one or more secure transactions between a first entity and at least one additional entity, comprising the steps of:

(1)   using an electronic card to generate a Secure Card Number ("SCN") for the first entity, wherein the SCN is comprised of:

(a)   a Transaction Information Block ("TIB");

(b)   a Counter Block; and

(c)   an encrypted Personal Identification Number ("PIN") Block;

(2)   transferring the SCN and a first entity identifier to a second entity in a first transaction;

(3)   transferring the SCN and the first entity identifier from the second entity to a money source; and

(4)   verifying that the first transaction is valid with the money source by use of the first entity identifier and the SCN;

wherein the TIB can be used for invoking one or more restrictions on use of the SCN.

2.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the SCN is transferred to the money source in an account number and the first entity identifier is transferred to the money source in a non-account data field.

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3.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first entity identifier is transferred to the money source as an account number and the SCN is transferred to the money source in a non-account data field.

4.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the SCN is readable by a magnetic card reader.

5.   A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the SCN is readable from either Track 1 or Track 2 of the magnetic card.

6.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the TIB is used by the money source to determine which of a plurality of account numbers associated with the first entity should be used for the first transaction.

7.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the TIB is used by the money source to determine whether the device which generated the SCN has changed status condition.

8.   A device as recited in claim 7, wherein the changed status condition is a low battery condition.

9.   A device as recited in claim 7, wherein the low battery condition is detected by a diagnostic program.

10.   A device as recited in claim 7, wherein the low battery condition is detected by using an empirical record of the number of transactions presented for authorization.

11.   A device as recited in claim 10, wherein the determination of the low battery condition is made by the electronic card.

12.   A device as recited in claim 11, wherein the empirical record is kept by the electronic card.

13.   A device as recited in claim 11, wherein the determination of the low battery condition is made by the money source.

14.   A device as recited in claim 13, wherein the empirical record is kept by the money source.

15.   A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the changed status condition is an invalid user input status.

16.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein a set of valid SCNs are pre-calculated and stored on the electronic card.